



## GRAIN TRANSPORTATION REPORT

Agricultural Marketing Service  
United States Department of Agriculture

MAY 14, 2002



### Senators Introduce a New Maritime Security Bill.

On April 25, Senators John Breaux, D-LA, and Gordon Smith, D-OR, introduced the Ship, Seafarer, and Container Security Act in the Senate. The proposed legislation is designed to provide better information about shipping and shipping threats and to allow better tracking of vessels and the security of the Nation's maritime environment. Key provisions of the Act would be: to require certain vessels to carry transponders to transmit and track their positions so the U.S. Coast Guard can track U.S. and foreign vessels; to require the Department of Transportation (DOT) to negotiate an international agreement within 2 years to create an identification system for seafarers and make it more difficult to falsify a ship's registration to mask its ownership; and to require DOT to better address the risks posed by certain vessels and ensure enforcement of security zones. (Sources: *Journal of Commerce Online*, *Pacific Shipper Online*, and *Traffic World-The Logistics News Weekly Online*. For more information contact Karla Martin, USDA, Transportation Services Program, [Karla.Martin@usda.gov](mailto:Karla.Martin@usda.gov))

### New Mobile Inspection System at Port of Seattle Doubles as Security Measure.

Of the 46 percent of goods imported into the United States (by value) that arrive at seaports via container, only about 2 percent are currently able to be physically inspected. To help eliminate the security and content uncertainty of containers entering the port, the Port of Seattle is implementing one of more than 20 mobile inspection devices deployed

nationwide by U.S. Customs. The new inspection system resembles a truck with a cherry picker attached. A hydraulically deployed arm stretches over the container, and a device on the end emits gamma rays that show images of the container's contents—cargo, weapons, and even people. The unit can scan 11 containers per hour, compared with the hours it takes to physically unload and visually inspect one container. The ports at Los Angeles and Long Beach, CA, have been using mobile inspections systems for approximately 18 months. (Source: *NewsEdge-Workgroups*. For more information contact Karla Martin, USDA, Transportation Services Program, [Karla.Martin@usda.gov](mailto:Karla.Martin@usda.gov))

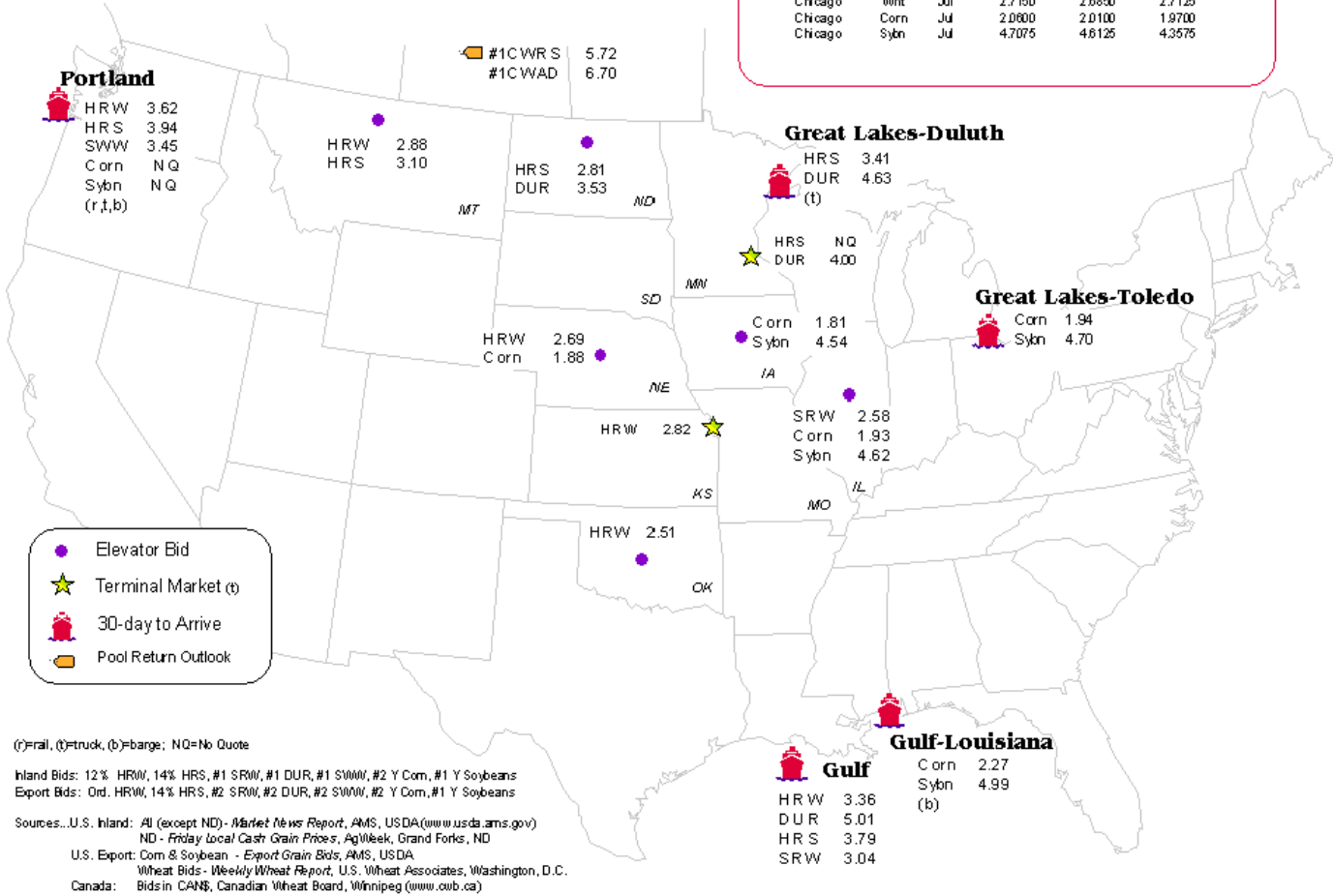
### Ocean Grain Shipments Increase.

Grain inspections at ports increased by 5 percent over the total for this time last year. Just over 29 million tons were delivered to ports by the end of April, with 72 percent exported from the Mississippi Gulf, 10 percent from the Texas Gulf, and 18 percent out of Pacific ports.

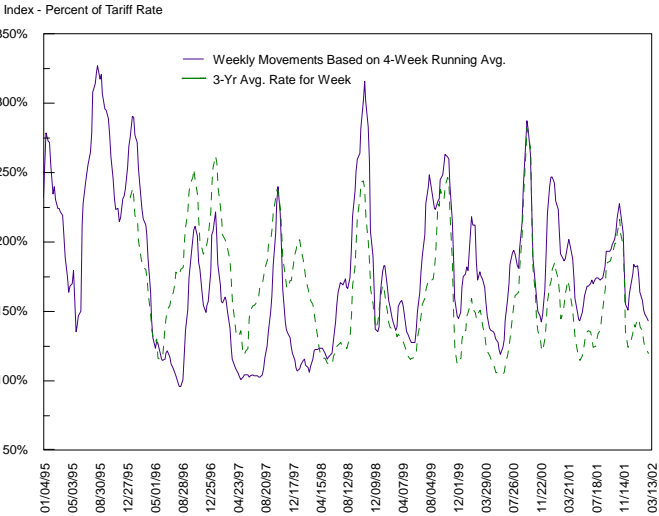
The dry bulk vessel market, which carries the world's grain, coal, fertilizer, and steel, is still quite soft with Gulf rates to Europe down nearly 30 percent from last year at this time. Gulf rates to Japan are down less at 16 percent off first quarter 2001 rates. It currently costs about \$21 per ton to ship grain to Japan and \$11 per ton to Europe from the Gulf. Rates from the PNW to Japan are about \$11 per ton. For more information please refer to page 7 of this report.

Grain Bid Summary

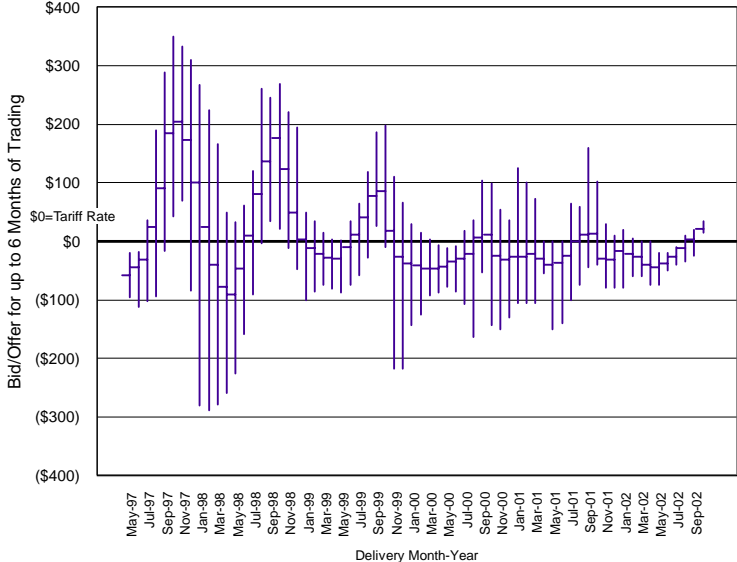
Futures:			05/10/2002	Week Ago 05/03/2002	Year Ago 05/04/2001
Kansas City	Wht	Jul	2.8225	2.8275	3.3100
Minneapolis	Wht	Jul	2.9100	2.9250	3.3200
Minneapolis	Dur	Sep	4.5000	4.5000	n.a.
Chicago	Wht	Jul	2.7150	2.6850	2.7125
Chicago	Corn	Jul	2.0600	2.0100	1.9700
Chicago	Sybn	Jul	4.7075	4.6125	4.3575



Spot Barge Rate - Illinois River



Secondary Rail Market Bids



**Rail Car 'Auction' Offerings**

Delivery for:	Jun-02		Jul-02	
	<u>Offered</u>	<u>% Sold</u>	<u>Offered</u>	<u>% Sold</u>
<b>BNSF-COT</b>	11,820	6%	12,966	3%
<b>UP-GCAS</b>	5,400	0%	no offer	

Source: Transportation &amp; Marketing /AMS/USDA; www.bnsf.com; www.uprr.com

**Secondary Rail Car Market**

Average Premium/Discount to Tariff, \$/Car - Last Week

	<b>Delivery Period</b>			
	May-02	Jun-02	Jul-02	Aug-02
BNSF-GF	\$(11)	\$(13)	\$(8)	\$12
UP-Pool	\$0	\$(13)	\$(11)	\$10

Source: T&M/AMS/USDA. Data from Atwood/ConAgra., Harvest States Co-op, James B. Joiner Co., Tradewest Brokerage Co.;  
 GF=Guaranteed Freight, GEEP=Guaranteed Eqpt. Exchange,  
 Pool=Guaranteed Pool

*note... bids listed are market INDICATORS only & are NOT guaranteed prices, missing value=No Bid Quoted*

**Railroad Car 'Auction' Results**

Average Premium/Discount to Tariff, \$/Car - Last Auction

Delivery for:	Jun-02	Jul-02	Aug-02
COT/N. Grain	no bid	no bid	\$0
COT/S. Grain	no bid	no bid	no bid
GCAS/Region 2	no bid	no offer	no offer
GCAS/Region 4	no bid	no offer	no offer

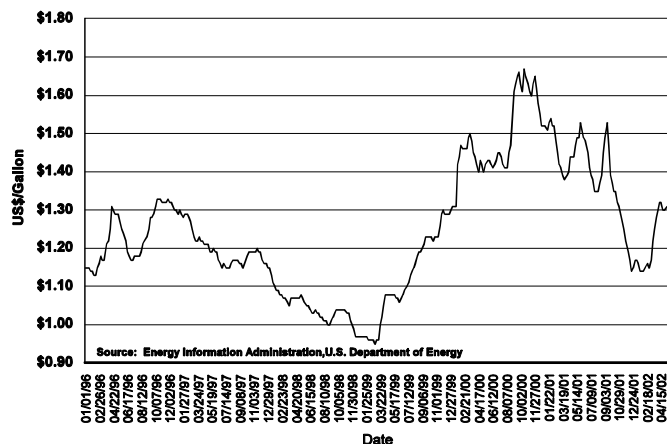
Source: T&M/AMS USDA. Data from [www.bnsf.com](http://www.bnsf.com), [www.uprr.com](http://www.uprr.com),  
 (COT=Certificate of Transportation; GCAS=Grain Car Allocation System)

**Southbound Barge Freight Nominal/Cash Basis Values**

Index=Percent of Tariff, Based on 1976 Tariff Benchmark Rate

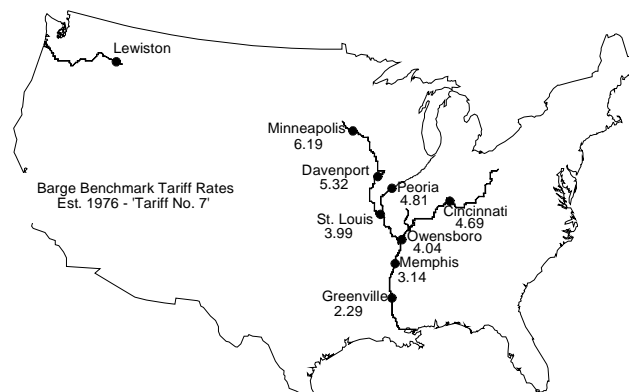
Week ended	River/Region	Contract Period	Rate	
			Futures	Cash
05/13/02	St. Louis	May	0	125
		Jul	0	135
		Sep	0	185
		Nov	0	160
		Jan	0	
	Illinois River	May	0	150
		Jul	0	155
		Sep	0	205
		Nov	0	185
		Jan	0	

Source: St. Louis Merchants Exchange

**Weekly Retail Diesel (Road) Prices (Including Taxes)****Southbound Barge Freight Spot Rates**

	5/8/02	5/1/02	Jun '02	Aug '02
Twin Cities	158	159	174	200
Mid-Mississippi	134	127	148	175
Illinois River	128	121	138	165
St. Louis	100	95	114	157
Lower Ohio	101	99	118	164
Cairo-Memphis	95	92	108	149

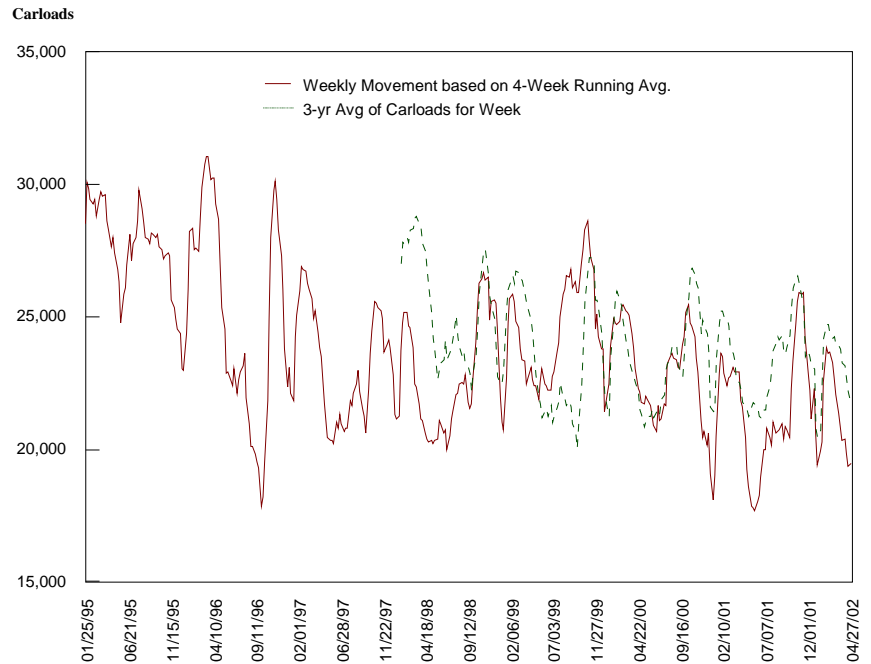
Source: Transportation & Marketing /AMS/USDA  
 nq=no quote;



## Grain Car Loadings for Class I Railroads

Class I Railroad Grain Car Loadings	
Week Ending:	Carloads
4/20/02	18,188
04/27/02	19,717
05/04/02	18,338
Year to Date - 2002	382,170
Year to Date - 2001	395,613
Total 2001	1,117,601
Total 2000	1,188,917

Source: Association of American Railroads



## Class I Rail Carrier Grain Car Bulletin

Grain Carloads Originated

	East		West			Canada	
	CSXT	NS	BNSF	KCS	UP	CN	CP
05/04/02	2967	2,919	5,487	640	6,325	4,500	3,416
This Week Last Year	2,529	3,096	5,734	386	6,418	4,999	4,425
2002 YTD	52,974	57,744	134,877	11,004	121,416	73,250	66,064
2001 YTD	57,312	56,531	152,946	8,406	120,418	86,753	82,127
2001 Total	151,864	163,018	428,603	26,330	347,156	254,982	232,461
2000 Total	147,708	153,905	425,849	26,515	364,785	160,749	239,670

Source: Association of American Railroads

## Tariff Rail Rates for Unit Train Shipments

March 2002

Date Effective	Tariff Item	Commodity	Origin	Destination	Rate Per Car	Rate Per MT	Rate/Per Bushel*
05/06/02	45560	Wheat	Minneapolis, MN	Houston, TX	\$2,050	\$22.60	\$0.62
05/06/02	43521	Wheat	Minneapolis, MN	Portland, OR	\$3,877	\$42.74	\$1.16
05/06/02	46540	Wheat	Kansas City, MO	Houston, TX	\$1,650	\$18.19	\$0.50
05/06/02	43586	Wheat	Kansas City, MO	Portland, OR	\$4,347	\$47.92	\$1.30
05/06/02	43581	Wheat	Omaha, NE	Portland, OR	\$4,005	\$44.15	\$1.20
05/06/02	31040	Corn	Minneapolis, MN	Portland, OR	NA	\$0.00	\$0.00
05/06/02	31035	Corn	Kansas City, MO	Portland, OR	\$2,700	\$29.76	\$0.76
05/06/02	31040	Corn	Omaha, NE	Portland, OR	NA	\$0.00	\$0.00
05/06/02	61180	Soybean	Minneapolis, MN	Portland, OR	NA	\$0.00	\$0.00
05/06/02	61180	Soybean	Omaha, NE	Portland, OR	NA	\$0.00	\$0.00
05/01/98	61180	Soybean	Omaha, NE	Portland, OR	\$2,780	\$25.23	\$0.83

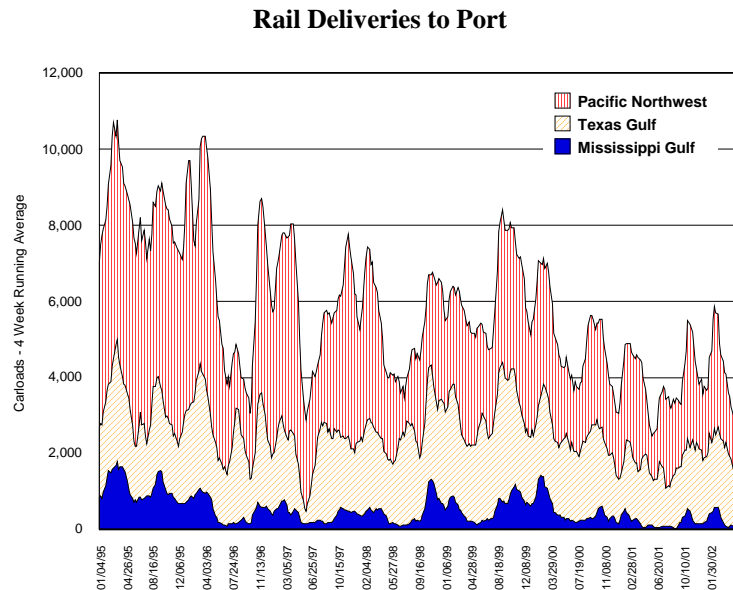
Source: www.bnsf.com

Approximate load per car = 100 tons: Corn 56 lbs/bu, Wheat &amp; Soybeans 60 lbs/bu

**Rail Deliveries to Port****Carloads**

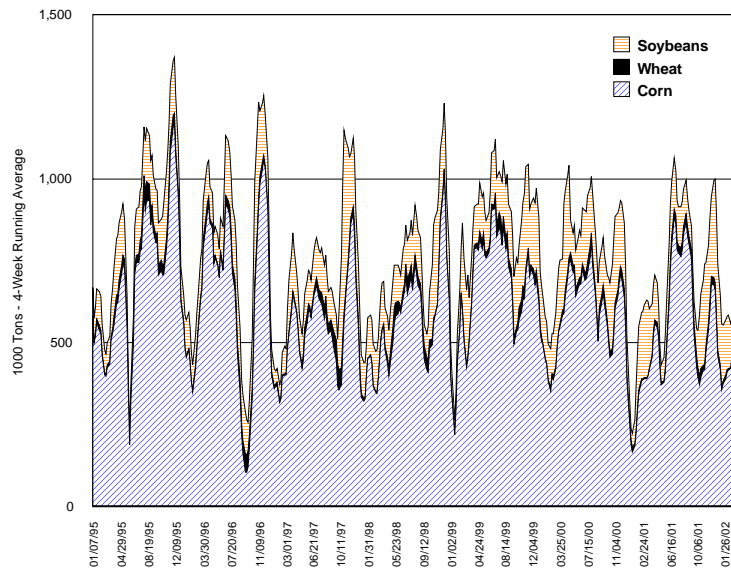
	Mississippi Gulf	Texas Gulf	Pacific Northwest	Atlantic & East Gulf
Week Ending:				
03/27/02	101*	2,420	2,073	236
04/03/02	2*	1,807	2,040	638
04/10/02	66*	2,530	1,127	275
04/17/02	51*	1,005	1,196	18
04/24/02	252*	1,955	1,876	31
05/01/02	41*	1,513	1,276	557
YTD 2002	5,157*	33,324	36,901	9,512
YTD 2001	4,484	27,462	42,145	12,660
Total 2001	10,022	81,804	111,376	26,604
Total 2000	25,767	104,473	128,414	14,816

Source: Transportation &amp; Marketing/AMS/USDA



(\*) Incomplete Data

(\*\*) Identical figures are correct

**Barge Movements - Locks 27****Barge Grain Movements**

for week ending 5/4/02

	Corn	Wht	Sybn	Total
	1,000 Tons			
Mississippi River				
Rock Island, IL (L15)	242	21	56	323
Winfield, MO (L25)	296	17	101	428
Alton, IL (L26)	570	38	143	762
Granite City, IL (L27)	558	35	118	723
Illinois River (L8)	224	19	40	286
Ohio (L52)	46	3	11	70
Arkansas (L1)	1	3	0	4
2002 YTD	11,463	767	3,827	16,745
2001 YTD	9,027	657	3,615	14,092
Total 2001	31,878	2,679	10,616	47,091
Total 2000	33,482	2,518	10,327	48,247

Miss YTD: Calendar year totals include Miss/27, Ohio/52 and Ark/1.

Source: U.S. Army Corp of Engineers; L15 &amp; L25 closed for winter.

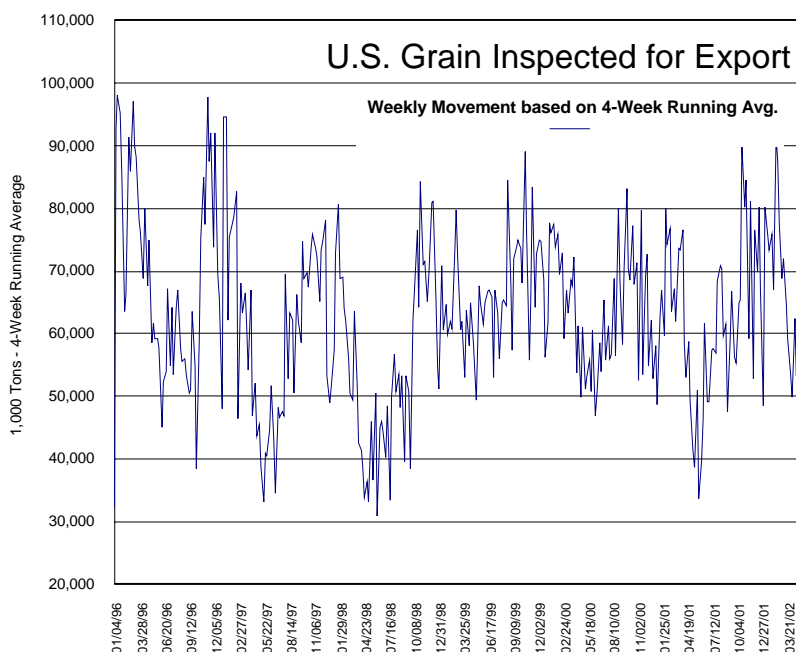
**U.S. Export Balances** (1,000 Metric Tons)

	<i>HRW</i>	<i>SRW</i>	<i>HRS</i>	Wheat <i>SWW</i>	<i>DUR</i>	<i>All</i>	Corn	Soybean	Total
<u>Unshipped Exports-Crop Year</u>									
05/02/02	1,112	741	723	428	112	3,115	6,735	3,311	13,161
This Week Year Ago	814	308	584	426	148	2,280	5,444	2,110	9,834
<u>Cumulative Exports-Crop Year</u>									
01/02 YTD	8,073	5,077	5,142	2,946	1,080	22,318	30,601	24,250	77,169
00/01 YTD	8,685	4,257	5,355	4,796	1,098	24,191	31,129	17,713	73,033
99/00 Total	9,858	4,710	6,305	5,413	1,232	27,518	37,220	24,516	89,254
98/99 Total	7,387	3,645	7,864	6,105	963	25,965	44,476	24,501	94,942

Source: Foreign Agricultural Service YTD-Year-to-Date ([www.fas.usda.gov](http://www.fas.usda.gov)) Crop Year:Wheat=5/31-6/01, Corn & Soybeans=9/01-8/31**Select U.S. Port Regions - Grain Inspections for Export - 1,000 Metric Tons**

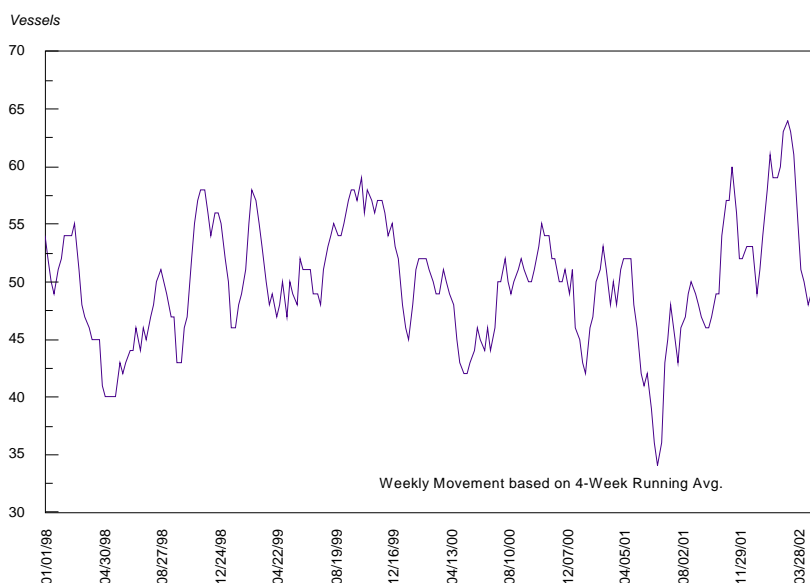
	<u>Pacific Region</u>			<u>Mississippi Gulf</u>			<u>Texas Gulf</u>		
	<i>Wheat</i>	<i>Corn</i>	<i>Soybean</i>	<i>Wheat</i>	<i>Corn</i>	<i>Soybean</i>	<i>Wheat</i>	<i>Corn</i>	<i>Soybean</i>
05/02/02	129	69	25	116	804	217	134	0	24
2002 YTD	2,998	1,692	925	2,032	12,487	7,670	2,197	106	722
2001 YTD	3,502	1,694	1,173	1,956	10,958	7,038	1,932	164	731
% of Last Year	30%	28%	54%	30%	35%	43%	32%	23%	72%
1998 Total	10,838	4,373	651	5,048	31,330	14,917	7,270	562	1,392

Source: Federal Grain Inspection Service YTD-Year-to-Date

**Select Canadian Ports - Export Inspections**  
1,000 Metric Tons, Crop Year

	<u>Wheat</u>	<u>Durum</u>	<u>Barley</u>
Week Ended: 05/09/02			
Vancouver	4,826	310	401
Prince Rupert	1,055		0
Prairie Direct	1,065	318	275
Thunder Bay	393	191	62
St. Lawrence	2,118	1,619	0
2001 YTD Exports	9,457	2,438	738
2000 YTD Exports	9,808	2,307	1,419
% of Last Year	96%	106%	52%

Source: Canadian Grains Commission, Crop year 8/1-7/31



**Gulf Region  
Vessels Loaded  
- Past 7 Days-**

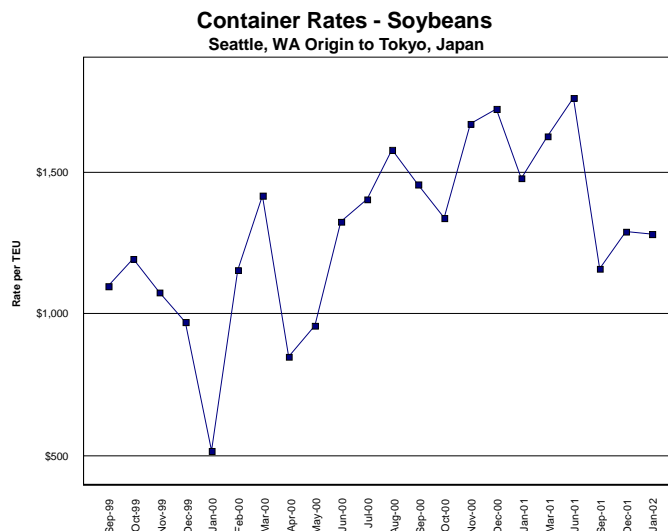
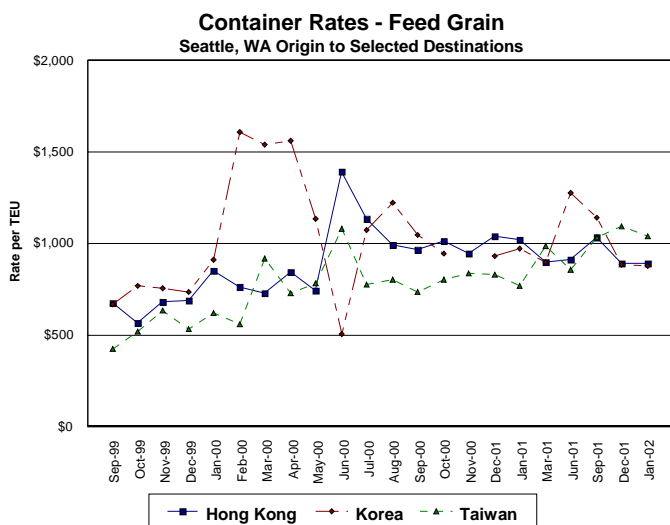
### Port Region Ocean Grain Vessels

	Gulf			Pacific Northwest			Vancouver, B.C.		
	<u>In Port</u>	<u>Loaded 7-Days</u>	<u>Due Next 10-Days</u>	<u>In Port</u>	<u>Loaded 7-Days</u>	<u>Due Next 10-Days</u>	<u>In Port</u>	<u>Loaded 7-Days</u>	<u>Due Next 10-Days</u>
05/02/02	26	51	50	5			12	5	3
05/09/02	22	44	56	5			11	10	3
2001 Range	(13..65)	(28..64)	(46..81)	(1..18)			(4..20)	(3..14)	(0..7)
2000 Range	(23..50)	(34..57)	(47..83)	(4..15)			(4..20)	(5..19)	(0..9)
2001 Avg	36	48	63				12	8	3
2000 Avg	36	49	65				11	9	3
1999 Avg	32	52	65				10	9	3

Source: Transportation & Marketing /AMS/ USDA

### Container Ocean Freight Rates

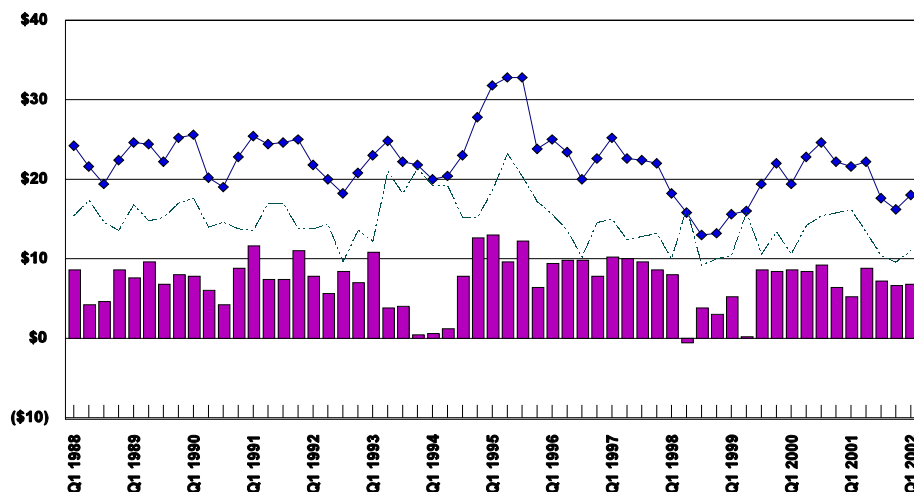
Monthly Weighted Averages Based on Shipping Line Monthly Mkt. Share



Source: Transportation & Marketing/AMS/USDA

◆ Rate - Gulf to Japan  
 --- Rate - PNW to Japan  
 ■ Spread - Gulf vs. PNW to Japan

US\$/Metric Ton



Quarterly Ocean  
 Freight Rates

### Quarterly Ocean Freight Rates

Average Rates & Percentage Changes, U.S. Dollars/Metric Ton - Basis

	2002 1st Qtr	2001 1st Qtr	% Change		2002 1st Qtr	2001 1st Qtr	% Change
<b>Gulf to</b>				<b>Pacific NW to</b>			
Japan	\$18.10	\$21.70	-16%	Japan	\$11.13	\$16.36	-31%
Mexico	\$31.49		-				
Venezuela		\$13.53	-				
N. Europe	\$10.67	\$15.19	-29%	<b>Argentina to</b>			
N. Africa	\$17.58	\$26.25	-33%	Med. Sea	\$17.85	\$22.14	-19%
Med. Sea	\$10.97	\$14.81	-25%	N. Europe	\$13.48	\$16.47	-18%
Black Sea	\$49.12		-	Japan	\$25.59	\$30.51	-16%

Source: Transportation & Marketing/AMS/USDA; (\*) rates shown are for metric ton (2,204.62 lbs.=one metric ton)

### Ocean Freight Rates (Select Locations) - week ending 5/11/02

Export Region	Import Region	Grain	Month	Volume Loaded (Tons)	Freight Rate (\$/Ton)
Gulf	UK/Ireland	Grains	May 10/17	20,000	\$17.50
Gulf	Tunisia	Maize	May 7/19	22,500	\$18.50
Gulf	Portugal	Grains	May 7/10	30,000	\$15.75
Gulf	S. Africa	Maize	May 10/20	40,000	\$17.00
Gulf	Japan	Heavy Grain	May 29/Jun 9	54,000	\$20.90
Puget Sound	China	Heavy Grain	May 10/20	55,000	\$11.75
River Plate	Algeria	Meals & Maize	May 14/20	20,000	\$25.00

Source: Maritime Research Inc.; rates shown are for metric ton (2,204.62 lbs.=one metric ton), F.O.B., except where otherwise indicated; op=option